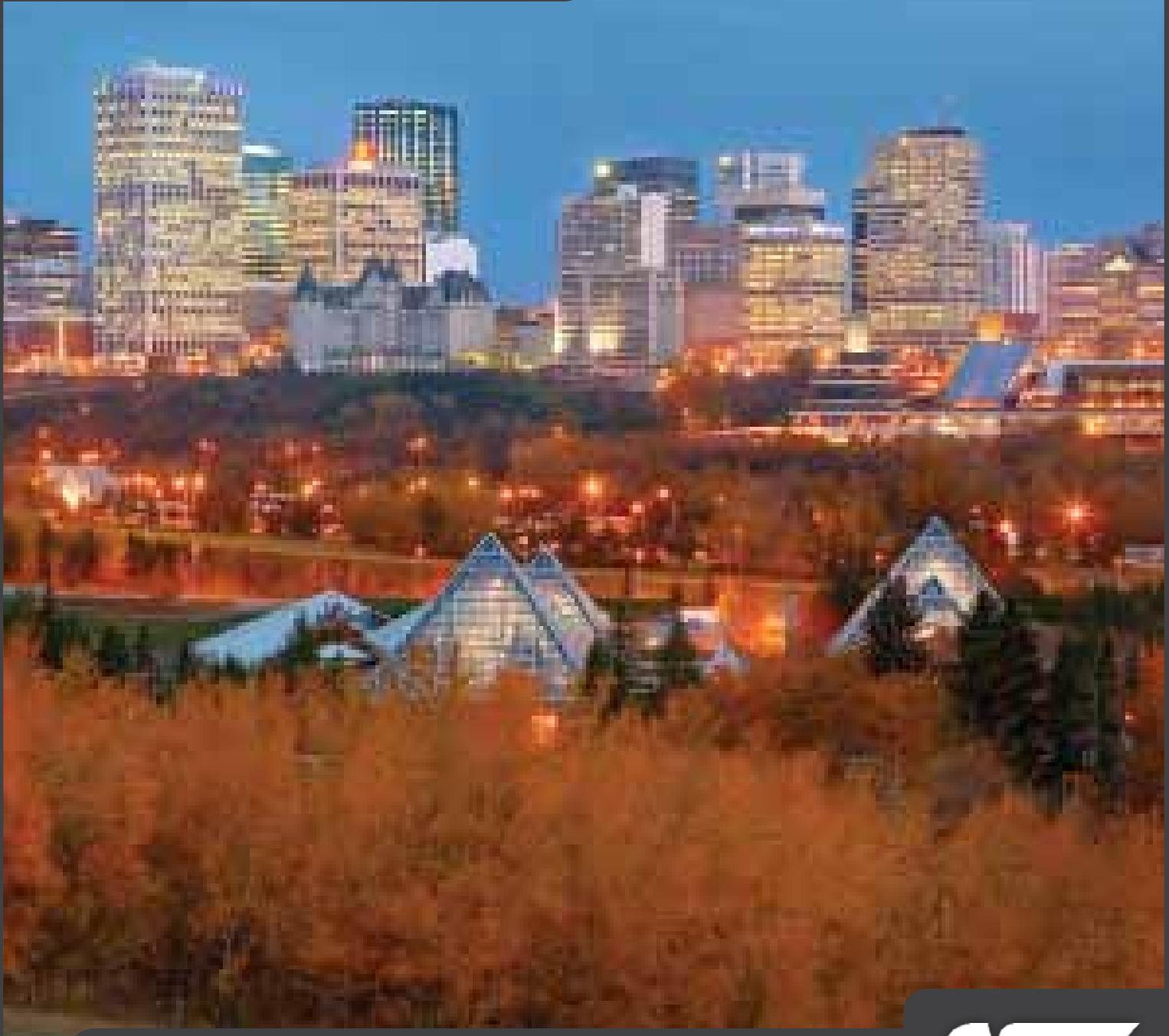


Council of State Governments-WEST

2012 ANNUAL REPORT



65th Annual Meeting



Legislative Training



Border Legislative Conference



"Serving Western Legislatures"

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We are pleased to provide you a copy of this CSG-WEST 2012 annual report, highlighting programs and services aimed to strengthen the institution and members of Western state legislatures.

As you review the variety of substantive programs, professional development opportunities and research services available, you will also notice some of the significant leaders and regional stakeholders who have contributed to the many successes of CSG and CSG-WEST in sharing good ideas across state and international borders.

As we move forward, we remain committed to engaging and serving Western state lawmakers with opportunities to learn from one another and to collaborate to advance important regional concerns.

Sincerely,
Kelvin, Craig, Nancy, and Rosie
CSG-WEST 2013 Officers

Left to right: Senator Kelvin Atkinson, Nevada, CSG-WEST Chair; Representative Rosie Berger, Wyoming, CSG-WEST Immediate Past Chair; Senator Nancy Todd, Colorado, CSG-WEST Vice-Chair; Representative Craig Johnson, Alaska, CSG-WEST Chair-Elect

Front cover photo is a view of the City of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.



About CSG-WEST



Founded in 1947, CSG-WEST is one of four regions of CSG that form a national community of state officials and staff.

CSG national serves all three branches of state government, providing access to national policy research and forums, including developments in Washington, D.C., as well as linkages to state government officials across the country.

Through a variety of programs and services, CSG-WEST fosters regional collaboration and the exchange of information, building relationships and resources to strengthen the legislative institutions of its 13 member states.

Council of State Governments-WEST (CSG-WEST) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization created to serve Western state legislatures.

Canadian provinces of Alberta and British Columbia and the Pacific island governments of American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam are associate members of CSG-WEST.

CSG-WEST and its neighboring region, CSG South, partner with states on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border to work on key issues affecting the security and prosperity of the border region.

CSG-WEST 2012

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee serves as the board of directors of CSG-WEST reviewing the work and activities of policy committees, adopting policy positions, selecting participants for the Western Legislative Academy and approving the annual selection of CSG-WEST officers.

The Committee is comprised of

- Four CSG-WEST officers
- Presiding legislative officers of both chambers of each Western state
- Ranking minority leaders of both chambers of each Western state
- Chair and vice chair of CSG-WEST committees
- Legislators appointed by the presiding legislative officers of member states
- Western legislators serving as CSG national officers or leaders of CSG national committees and task forces
- Western legislators who are former CSG or CSG-WEST chairs

Actions-at-a-Glance

July 20 and 23, 2012
Edmonton, Alberta

- Selected the Western Legislative Academy Class of 2012
- Adopted policy resolution urging plan for debt reduction and balancing national budget
- Agreed to establish a task force - comprised of leadership from the CSG-WEST Energy and Public Lands Committee, Education Committee and Western Economic Development Committee - to explore issues related to compensation and transfer of federal public lands in the West

ALASKA

Gary Stevens, President of the Senate
John Coghill, Senate Minority Leader
Lesil McGuire, Senator
Mike Chenault, Speaker of the House
Beth Kerttula, House Minority Leader



Representative Craig Johnson
CSG-WEST Vice Chair

Alan Austerman, Representative
Berta Gardner, Representative

ARIZONA

Steve Pierce, President of the Senate
David Schapira, Senate Minority Leader
Andy Tobin, Speaker of the House
Chad Campbell, House Minority Leader
Karen Fann, Representative
Russell Jones, Representative
Frank Pratt, Representative

CALIFORNIA

Darrell Steinberg, President Pro Tempore
Bob Huff, Senate Minority Leader
Elaine Alquist, Senator
Curren Price, Senator
John A. Pérez, Speaker of the Assembly
Connie Conway,
Assembly Minority Floor Leader
Charles Calderon, Assembly Member
Alyson Huber, Assembly Member

COLORADO

Brandon Shaffer, President of the Senate
John Morse, Senate Majority Leader
Bill Cadman, Senate Minority Leader
Morgan Carroll, Senator
Michael Johnston, Senator
Frank McNulty, Speaker of the House
Amy Stephens, House Majority Leader
Mark Ferrandino, House Minority Leader
Jon Becker, Representative
Brian DelGrosso, Representative
Keith Swerdfeger, Representative
Libby Szabo, Representative
Nancy Todd, Representative

HAWAII

Shan Tsutsui, President of the Senate
Sam Slom, Senate Minority Floor Leader
Brian T. Taniguchi, Senator
Calvin K. Y. Say, Speaker of the House
Gene Ward, House Minority Leader



Representative Marcus Oshiro
CSG-WEST Immediate Past Chair
Kyle Yamashita, Representative

IDAHO

Brent Hill, President Pro Tempore
Bart M. Davis, Senate Majority Leader
Edgar Malepeai, Senate Minority Leader
Dean Mortimer, Senator
Lawrence Denney, Speaker of the House
John Rusche, House Minority Leader
Maxine Bell, Representative
Thomas Loertscher, Representative
Dell Raybould, Representative
Jeff Thompson, Representative
Richard Wills, Representative

MONTANA

Jim Peterson, President of the Senate
Bruce Tutvedt, President Pro Tempore
Carol Williams, Senate Minority Leader
Kim Gillan, Senator
Mike Milburn, Speaker of the House
Jon Sesso, House Minority Leader
Gary MacLaren, Representative

NEVADA

Steven A. Horsford,
Senate Majority Floor Leader
Mike McGinness,
Senate Minority Floor Leader
John Ocegueda,
Speaker of the Assembly
Debbie Smith, Speaker Pro Tempore
Marcus Conklin,
Assembly Majority Floor Leader
Pete Goicoechea,
Assembly Minority Floor Leader



Assemblyman Kelvin D. Atkinson
CSG-WEST Chair-Elect
Teresa Benitez-Thompson,
Assemblywoman
Lynn Stewart, Assemblyman

NEW MEXICO

Timothy Z. Jennings,
President Pro Tempore
Michael Sanchez,
Senate Majority Floor Leader
Stuart Ingle,
Senate Minority Floor Leader
Timothy Eichenberg, Senator
Gay Kernan, Senator
John Sapien, Senator
Ben Lujan, Speaker of the House
Thomas C. Taylor,
House Minority Floor Leader
Thomas Garcia, Representative

OREGON

Peter Courtney,
President of the Senate
Ted Ferrioli, Senate Republican Leader
Jackie Dingfelder, Senator
Bruce Hanna, Co-Speaker of the House
Arnie Roblan, Co-Speaker of the House

UTAH

Michael Waddoups,
President of the Senate
Ross Romero, Senate Minority Leader
Stephen Urquhart, Senator
Rebecca Lockhart,
Speaker of the House
David Litvack, House Minority Leader
Roger Barrus, Representative
Melvin R. Brown, Representative
Todd Kiser, Representative
Ronda Rudd Menlove, Representative

WASHINGTON

Lisa Brown, Senate Majority Leader
Mike Hewitt, Senate Republican Leader
Linda Evans Parlette, Senator
Karen Fraser, Senator
Frank Chopp, Speaker of the House
Richard DeBolt, House Minority Leader
Sherry Appleton, Representative
Sam Hunt, Representative
Jeff Morris, Representative

WYOMING

Jim Anderson, President of the Senate
Tony Ross,
Senate Majority Floor Leader
John Hastert,
Senate Minority Floor Leader
Phil Nicholas, Senator
John Schiffer, Senator
Edward Buchanan,
Speaker of the House
Tom Lubnau,
House Majority Floor Leader
W. Patrick Goggles,
House Minority Floor Leader



Representative Rosie Berger
CSG-WEST Chair

Ex-Officio Member

Pamela Varni, Executive Director
Alaska Legislative Affairs Agency

Preparing High School Graduates



Integrating Technology and Learning

July 23, 2012
CSG-WEST Annual Meeting
Edmonton, Alberta
by Douglas A. Levin from the State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA) and Pam Goins of CSG.



Colorado Representative Tom Massey showcased an example of technology innovation in K-12 and higher education. Assistant Superintendent of Student Learning Services at Edmonton Public Schools, Tanni Parker, spoke about Edmonton Public Schools' success and top honor recognition from around the world with regard to technology.

Colorado Representative Tom Massey

Policy Academy on Implementation Costs of College and Career - Readiness Standards

September 27-29, 2012, Fort Myers, Florida

Western legislators participated in a CSG Policy Academy on implementation costs of career readiness standards. Topics discussed included how Common Core State Standards are being implemented in states, building school capacity for student success in tight economic times and ways to align key state policies to transform the education system.



Montana legislators attend Policy Academy: (left to right) Representatives Robert Mehlhoff, Joanne Blyton, Roy Hollandsworth and Senator Llew Jones

education



CHAIR
Nancy Todd
Representative
Colorado



VICE CHAIR
Dean Mortimer
Senator
Idaho

Education Committee

With education funding constituting a large portion of every state budget, the Education Committee provides the opportunity for Western legislators to share innovative programs and best practices aimed at achieving successful educational outcomes with limited resources.



energy & public lands



CHAIR
John Schiffer
Senator
Wyoming



VICE CHAIR
Russ Jones
Representative
Arizona

Energy & Public Lands Committee

The Energy & Public Lands Committee examines policies that ensure the reliable generation and transmission of the West's energy resources as well as issues that challenge multiple uses of the West's public lands.

Energy: Supply, Demand ... Innovation, Siting ...

July 22, 2012 CSG-WEST Annual Meeting
Edmonton, Alberta

Western policymakers heard from a leading expert on current world energy supply and demand and what it will look like 10-15 years in the future. What was made very apparent is the impact geopolitical events have on world energy supply and demand due to the tightly integrated nature of the world's energy markets. The other major variable in future energy



supplies is the role technological innovation plays in expediting extraction as demonstrated by the impact that horizontal drilling and fracking have had on energy production in the U.S.



The committee heard about Canadian innovations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions during oil sands production including the production of petrochemical feedstocks from off gas byproducts and the use of residual natural gas by oil

sands producers for additional mining production. These processes are energy saving, provide valuable products for the petrochemical industries and keep tons of carbon emissions from entering the atmosphere.

Committee participants also explored the major issues surrounding successful pipeline siting and permitting identifying the TransCanada Keystone XL project as an example. Members learned that it is not only environmental concerns and regulatory requirements that impact pipeline routing but the cultural and political considerations of local communities, particularly if the pipeline involves foreign countries.

Policymakers concluded with a look at draft language for the creation of an interstate compact for electrical transmission line siting initiated by CSG's National Center for Interstate Compacts. The compact would go a long way to coordinating individual state permitting requirements.





Cutting-Edge Budget Innovations

July 22, 2012 CSG-WEST Annual Meeting
Edmonton, Alberta

What's happening in Washington, D.C.?

Chris Whatley, Director of CSG's Washington, D.C. Office, explained how a perfect storm of fiscal challenges was rapidly approaching with the expiration of three major tax cuts (the Bush cuts, the payroll cut and the AMT exemption), scheduled reductions in Medicaid doctors payments (the "Doc Fix"), the threat of \$109 billion in FY13 sequestration cuts, and a looming debt ceiling vote.

Results First: Cutting-Edge Budget Strategies in the West



Results First Director, Dr. Gary VanLandingham of the Pew Center on the States in Washington D.C., addressed the critical need for better ways to allocate resources. Results First uses a cutting-edge cost-benefit analysis to analyze key state policy areas, enabling states to analyze a wide range of policy choices and identifying those that can maximize outcomes and reduce costs. Washington Senator Karen Fraser provided examples of how the Washington State Institute for Public Policy utilized the Results First model for six different major successes in the criminal justice field.



Tax and Financial Incentives: What's Working in the West?

The new CSG report "Trends in Western State Business Incentives" was released at this meeting. The report concept originated by legislators attending the 2011 CSG-WEST fiscal affairs forum, and it was brought to completion by Western state economic development staff.

The report looks at trends in type and number of incentive programs used by states in the West, along with a brief review of economic trends and evaluations of trends in employment, unemployment and gross domestic product. A profile of each Western state is also provided, highlighting successful incentive and development programs, oversight and accountability measures, and recent legislative activity.

Three successful Western state economic development programs were represented at the fiscal forum from Karla Tartz of Colorado's Blueprint Plan, Nathan Buehler of Business Oregon and Gynii Gillian with Idaho's Workforce Development Training Program.

fiscal affairs



CHAIR
Debbie Smith
Assemblywoman
Nevada



VICE CHAIR
Tom Taylor
Representative
New Mexico

Fiscal Affairs Committee

Chairs and members of finance and appropriation committees in Western legislatures convene to exchange ideas on issues impacting state budgets, such as fiscal trends, tax incentives, revenue forecasting, performance-based budgeting and cost-benefit analysis tools.





CHAIR
Sam Hunt
Representative
Washington



VICE CHAIR
Gary MacLaren
Representative
Montana

Future of Western Legislatures Committee

Pursuing best practices that promote strong and effective state legislatures is the focus of the Future of Western Legislatures Committee. Members consider matters that affect the health of legislative institutions.

future of
western
legislatures
committee

Futures Committee and Alberta Legislative Assembly Hold Mock Session

July 22, 2012 CSG-WEST Annual Meeting
Edmonton, Alberta



With enthusiastic pounding of desks and noisy cries of “here, here,” Western state legislators took part in a lively mock session with Alberta legislative counterparts.

The joint program from the Legislative Assembly of Alberta and the CSG-WEST Future of Western Legislatures Committee gave U.S. lawmakers a better grasp of parliamentary democracy generally and the legislature of Alberta specifically.

Futures Committee Chair Rep. Sam Hunt (WA) served as premier during the mock session, and Futures Committee members assumed roles as cabinet ministers. Futures Vice Chair Rep. Gary MacLaren (MT) served as leader of the Official Opposition party. When it came time for Royal Assent (final approval of bills comes from the Crown), a purple-robed Rep. Maxine Bell (ID) did the honors in her new found role as Lieutenant Governor.

Alberta Speaker Gene Zwozdesky presided, and a handful of Alberta MLAs (Members of Legislative Assembly) sat in the legislative chamber to coach U.S. lawmakers on the intricacies of parliamentary democracy.

When the session concluded, Western lawmakers quizzed Alberta counterparts on differences and similarities of the two democratic systems. Albertan lawmakers expressed interest in observing the state legislative system in the U.S. and were cordially invited to do so by their U.S. counterparts.



International Trade and the West

July 23, 2012 CSG-WEST Annual Meeting
Edmonton, Alberta

The International Trade Committee focused on four topics at the 65th CSG-WEST annual meeting: State Trade and Export Promotion (STEP) Program, interstate commerce, state regulations on freight size and weight, and the impact of the Panama Canal expansion on Western ports.

Participants learned that STEP has a grant component available to states to increase number of eligible small businesses in exporting and to increase the value of exports for those that are currently exporting. It is a federal match grant program authorized at \$30 million/year through 2013. Since implementation of this program, 47 states and five territories have applied and received funding, including all 13 CSG-WEST member states.



Don Ipson, Chairman, President and CEO at DATS Trucking, Inc. (left) with Utah Representative Todd Kiser, Vice Chair of CSG-WEST International Committee

state regulations in regards to standardization of size and weight of transport trucks in the Western states.

Opportunities and challenges regarding the Panama Canal expansion were addressed by Linda Styrk of the Seaport Division at Port of Seattle. The expansion is scheduled to be completed in 2014. Combined with expected growth in global trade, U.S. participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement and the President's goal of doubling the nation's exports, Western ports could realize a considerable increase in activity requiring infrastructure enhancements.



Leo Penne at the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)

(AASHTO) based in Washington, D.C., addressed issues involving freight transportation by all modes and nexus with industries having significant interests in freight movement and transportation infrastructure. Don Ipson at DATS Trucking, Inc. contributed to this discussion, providing real-world examples of the challenges posed by variations in



Linda Styrk, Managing Director of the Seaport Division at Port of Seattle



CHAIR
Curren Price
Senator
California



VICE CHAIR
Todd Kiser
Representative
Utah

International Trade Committee

The International Trade Committee reviews how the evolving global economy, trade and trends affect urban and rural economies as well as state governments in the West.



international
trade
committee



CHAIR
Craig Johnson
Representative
Alaska



VICE CHAIR
Jackie Dingfelder
Senator
Oregon

Water & Environment Committee

Growing and competing demands of Western water and the environment, and how to better manage water resources and the sustainability of the environmental integrity of the West's land, air and water are focus of the committee's efforts.

water &
environment
committee



Clean Water Act, International Engagement and Environmental Concerns

July 22, 2012 CSG-WEST Annual Meeting
Edmonton, Alberta

Washington State Senator Karen Fraser shared her and Montana Senate President Jim Peterson's experience attending the 6th World Water Forum (WWF) that convened in Marseille, France on March 12-17. The WWF is the largest gathering of international stakeholders aimed at sharing ideas and identifying solutions to address complex, global water concerns.

Their participation provided a unique opportunity to engage with parliamentarians from across the globe to discuss water concerns and to learn about the different problem solving approaches and ongoing challenges. As the first U.S. state delegation to ever participate in the WWF, Senator Fraser and Senate President Peterson also had an opportunity to present perspectives on the development of water management in the American West over the last 150 years. The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, the Center for Natural Resources & Environmental Policy at the University of Montana, the Global Environment & Technology Foundation and CSG-WEST provided support for their participation at this important forum.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Assistant Administrator for Water, Nancy Stoner, provided Western lawmakers a federal update, including an overview of some of the projects being conducted by U.S. EPA in the West. With 2012 serving as a backdrop for the 40th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act, Assistant Administrator Stoner took the opportunity to highlight some of the landmark legislation's advancements.

Participating members had an opportunity to openly discuss general water and environment issues as well as receive an update from the Western States Water Council. Members agreed that convening periodic webinars or committee conference calls on specific water issues would be useful to keep members focused and engaged in water issues.

Economic Development Efforts

July 22, 2012 CSG-WEST Annual Meeting
Edmonton, Alberta

Policymakers heard two excellent presentations on why certain economic development efforts have been successful in Western Canada. One presentation gave a broad, historical analysis of how important the democratic and economic institutions of Canada have been in creating the environment that encourages economic development, whether it be banking, infrastructure, quality education, or political stability. The second presentation focused on some of the current programs that are stimulating economic growth such as tax incentives, export programs, and research and development efforts.

Legislators learned what they can do to help expedite expansion of broadband access in both rural and urban settings. Twenty one different recommendations were offered as to how to expand broadband including creating a specific agency to implement a broadband plan. The recommendations came from a successful program being implemented in California.

Lawmakers also heard a presentation on research conducted over 15 years to determine if tax incentives used to recruit businesses actually jump starts economic development. The conclusion from the research was that the taxes forgone using incentives are never really recouped over time. The taxes collected are better used for education and infrastructure efforts, which are examples of expenditures that may encourage a company to relocate. This committee forum considered answers to these questions and others as members reviewed a wide array of topics designed to strengthen Western economies.



Oregon Senator Elizabeth Steiner-Hayward



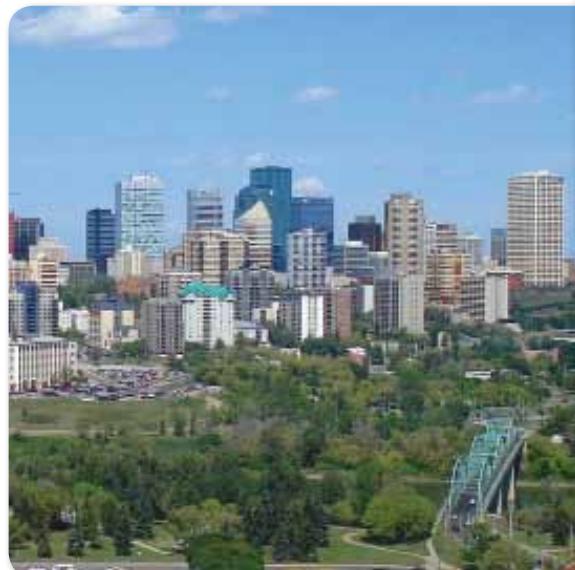
CHAIR
Kyle Yamashita
Representative
Hawaii



VICE CHAIR
John Sapien
Senator
New Mexico

Western Economic Development Committee

The Western Economic Development Committee focuses on the growth of Western state economies and the region as a whole, exploring a variety of state approaches to expand and diversify state economies.



western
economic
development

Alberta Welcomes Western Legislators



July 20-23, 2012
Edmonton, Alberta
CSG-WEST 65th
Annual Meeting

Nearly 400 lawmakers, staff and guests from Western states and provinces including Mexico and Canada assembled at the 65th CSG-WEST annual meeting. The July 20-23 conference was hosted by the Government of Alberta, under the leadership of CSG-WEST Chair Representative Rosie Berger of Wyoming. The theme was Western Frontiers -- On the Edge of Innovation.



Presentation of Colors by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police



The Honorable Gary Doer

Opening Session Kicked Off by Ambassador Gary Doer

Ambassador of Canada to the United States of America **Gary Doer** delivered the opening keynote address. Ambassador Doer talked about the shared history, boundaries and core values shared by Canada, the U.S. and Mexico. The Ambassador shared his insights into what states and provinces can do to strengthen North American cooperation and competitiveness.



Forces Shaping the Global Future

Just a few years ago, if you asked people what their favorite app was or what ebook they were reading, they might have wondered what strange new language you were speaking. But thanks to the rapid evolution of technology, those terms are

pretty familiar to most of us today. International futurist **Mike Walsh**, the founder and CEO of Tomorrow (a consumer innovation research lab) delivered a dynamic and high-impact glimpse into what our world could look like tomorrow. Walsh explained how technology and other transformational forces – from emerging markets to social media – is shaping our future.



Mike Walsh signing his book, Futuretainment.

Fahrenkamp Award Presented to Wyoming Sen. John Schiffer

The Bettye Fahrenkamp Award for Distinguished Legislative Leadership on Behalf of Western States recognizes leaders whose legislative careers demonstrate the ability to see and work beyond the border of their own states in the interest of the West. The award is named in honor of Bettye Fahrenkamp of Fairbanks, who served with distinction in the Alaska State Senate until her untimely death in 1991.

The recipient of the 2012 award, Senator Schiffer, has served for several years as Chair of the CSG-WEST Energy and Public Lands Committee. He is known among his legislative colleagues in the Western region and other public policy stakeholders as a collaborator and keen advocate of greater planning on energy transmission siting, energy resource development and intergovernmental cooperation. His regional leadership and vision led to the planning and successful execution of the 2009 Western States Energy and Environment Symposium in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, with participation by colleagues from throughout the West. Schiffer is also known for his service and leadership as a mentor and trusted advisor in the Wyoming Legislature.



Wyoming House Speaker Edward Buchanan, right, presented Wyoming Sen. John Schiffer with the Bettye Fahrenkamp Award for Distinguished Legislative Leadership on Behalf of Western States



Western State Centennials

Two Western states celebrated their Centennials in 2012. On January 6 and February 14, 1912 New Mexico and Arizona became the forty-seventh and forty-eighth states, respectively, to be admitted into the union of the United States of America.



Left to right: Alaska Representative Craig Johnson (CSG-WEST Vice Chair) presented CSG-WEST resolution to Arizona Representatives Frank Pratt and Russ Jones



Left to right: Alaska Representative Craig Johnson (CSG-WEST Vice Chair) presented CSG-WEST resolution to New Mexico Representative Andy Nuñez and Senator David Ulibarri.

Dave Rodney was born on the flatlands of North America, survived four knee surgeries and has broken his back in four places. Still, the inspirational speaker managed to climb Mount Everest, not once but twice. Rodney linked his challenges in the Himalayas to the personal and professional “Everests” that people face every day. On his website, Rodney references a statement from Andrew Bentley of Hewlett Packard “...that in life, in all of our journeys and all of our challenges, there are going to be false summits along the way. But even when that happens, we’ve got to keep on climbing and continue to go higher, wisely.”



Climbing Your Own “Everests”



July 20-23, 2012 - Edmonton, Alberta - CSG-WEST 65th Annual Meeting





CSG Western Innovations Award Winners

The CSG Western Innovations Selection Committee, comprised of CSG Toll Fellows still serving as Western state legislators, met and chose programs in Washington and Arizona as the 2012 Western CSG Innovation winners. Left to right: Representing Washington's Innovation Partnership Zones, or IPZs, was Egils Milbergs, executive director of the Washington Economic Development Commission, and representing the Central Arizona Programmatic Suicide Deterrent System were Don Erickson, bureau chief of the Arizona Department of Health Services, and David Covington, vice president for Adult and Child Services. Hawaii Rep. Marcus Oshiro, Immediate Past Chair of CSG-WEST, chaired the selection committee. Far right is Wyoming Rep. Rosie Berger, 2012 CSG-WEST Chair.

Women in Politics



Left to right: Washington Senator Karen Fraser and Wyoming Representative Norine Kasperik



Left to right: Washington Representative Sherry Appleton and Wyoming Representative Elaine Harvey co-moderated the Women in Politics forum



Left to right: Jacqueline Harriman of the U.S. Department of Defense and Nevada Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams

Created by CSG-WEST Chair Wyoming Representative **Rosie Berger**, Women in Politics is a professional development forum that takes place at every annual meeting. In 2012, lawmakers gathered for informal conversations about successful political leadership, joined by guest speaker **Iris Evans** (pictured above), a former Alberta Tory cabinet minister. She shared lessons learned along the way as a woman with 30 years' experience in Canadian politics.



Special Recognitions

The Honorable **Alison Redford**, Premier of the Province of Alberta, made a guest appearance and provided remarks at the closing event. The finale was held at the Fairmont Hotel Macdonald, a regal landmark in Edmonton since 1915. Left to Right: The Honorable Cal Dallas, Alberta Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations; The Honorable Alison Redford, Premier of the Province of Alberta; and Wyoming Representative Rosie Berger, Chair of CSG-WEST



While CSG-WEST annual meetings are known and valued for the exchange of ideas and best practices across Western state borders, Wyoming Representative Rosie Berger, Chair of CSG-WEST, was recognized for her leadership in gathering Western state legislators and Members of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta for one of CSG-WEST's most unique programming opportunities. In the background, CSG-WEST Chair-Elect Nevada Assemblyman Kelvin Atkinson, who presented the award, applauded with others in appreciation of her chairmanship.



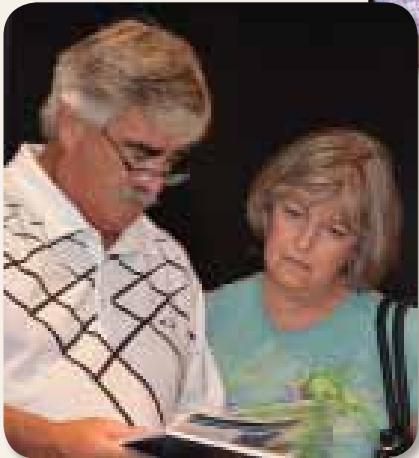
Forecasting the Nation's Political Climate

Donna Brazile, a Democratic political strategist, and **Rich Galen**, a Republican political analyst, discussed the 2012 political scene. Brazile and Galen don't agree on much, but in this presidential election year, they did agree on one thing: the issues that were being talked about in national politics weren't the big ones. According to Brazile, "We're not talking about the large issues, like unfunded pension liabilities or our infrastructure needs." Galen called the issues in the campaign "so complex that even those of us who think we understand a lot of it, it's just mind-numbing."



July 20-23, 2012 - Edmonton, Alberta - CSG-WEST 65th Annual Meeting

Candid Photos from the Annual Meeting



Shooting Star Award

Left to right: Wyoming Representative Rosie Berger is presented the prestigious State Government Affairs Council (SGAC) Shooting Star award by SGAC Board Member Jennifer Mendez of The Carpet and Rug Institute and Elisabeth Loudy, SGAC Executive Director. SGAC is a national association of state government affairs professionals.



Health Policy Forum



Moderator and
Presenter
Representative
Elaine D. Harvey,
Wyoming



Program Presenters left to right:
Dr. Norman Thurston of Utah health reform,
Liz Baker of Oregon's health insurance
exchange, Glenn Monteith of Alberta Health

The Health Policy Forum, convened at the annual meeting, provided an opportunity for Western state lawmakers and other stakeholders to discuss and exchange information on a variety of health policy issues.

The forum enabled legislators to exchange information and lessons learned from developing health insurance exchanges in their states, a key element of the federal Affordable Care Act. Western lawmakers also learned about the Canadian health care system, how it has developed over the years, and the challenges faced in meeting the needs of Canadian citizens.





North America Summit IV

This year the annual North America Summit focused on energy and trade issues affecting the U.S., Canada and Mexico. CSG-WEST's geographic location as a region sharing borders with Mexico and Canada provides strategic opportunities to engage leaders from all three countries in dialogue that identifies areas of greater collaboration.

North America Summit IV benefited from the annual meeting location in Edmonton, Alberta. Attendees enjoyed the participation by Members of Canada's Parliament and of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta. Member of Parliament for St. Catharines, Rick Dykstra, provided welcoming remarks along with New Mexico Representative Andy Nuñez and Chihuahua Diputado



E. Gabriel Flores Viramontes
Chihuahua Diputado

An Energy panel was moderated by Dave Quest, Alberta Member of Legislative Assembly for Strathcona-Sherwood Park, and featured two speakers: Michael Hagood, Program Specialist at Idaho National Laboratory, and Soll Sussman, Coordinator for the U.S.-Mexico Border Energy Forum. Mr. Hagood is the architect for the Western Energy Corridor concept that advances the development and stewardship of world-class energy resources located within the western interior of the United States and Canada. This bi-national effort includes developing collaborative research relationships with regional academic institutions and industry.

Mr. Sussman coordinates the annual U.S.-Mexico Border Energy Forum, now in its 19th year. This forum brings

together stakeholders from the border states of the U.S. and Mexico. Its mission is "to foster the exchange of information and ideas about how best to produce and consume energy in this fast-growing region, forge new partnerships, and work together towards twin goals of economic development and environmental protection." The BEF works to "improve and expand cross-border communications, policy advocacy and outreach regarding the region's vast potential for clean energy such as solar, wind, other renewables and natural gas as well as energy efficiency and conservation."

The second panel, jointly moderated by NM Rep. Nuñez and Chihuahua Diputado Flores Viramontes, focused on **Low Carbon Economy**. D. Rick Van Schoik, Director of the North American Center for Transborder Studies at Arizona State University, provided perspectives on Mexico's accomplishments and efforts toward reducing emissions of carbon and other greenhouse gases, which has resulted in a number of cooperative agreements with other governments and international organizations on climate change.

Thomas D. Peterson - Founder, President and CEO for the Center for Climate Strategies - and Frank Came -

Senior Advisor for GLOBE Foundation, highlighted the opportunities for investment and job creation by way of a green economy. Mr. Came suggested that regional collaboration will allow the leveraging of each jurisdiction's strengths to create a strong, globally competitive market for clean technology products and services but warned that it "won't just happen." Instead, the "transition to a cleaner economy requires vision, leadership, and coherent, economy-wide, strategic approaches."



MLA Dave Quest, Alberta

Finally, Christopher Wilson, Associate at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars-Mexico Institute, and Chris Sands, Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute, punctuated the benefits of **North American Trade Cooperation**.

Mr. Wilson pointed out that Canada is the #1 export market for 34 U.S. states, and 6 million U.S. jobs depend on trade with Mexico. Mr. Sands compared the difference two decades made in U.S.-Canada relations - notably the increase in trade from \$171 USD billion in 1982 to \$708 USD billion this year.



He noted how the 2012 Presidential election was so focused on the economy but not our economic partners. This last panel was moderated by MP Rick Dykstra.



Policy Tours

Attendees of the CSG-WEST 65th Annual Meeting participated in an afternoon of policy tours, showcasing some of Alberta's best practices.



- Alberta Industrial Heartland Association
 - Canada's largest hydrocarbon processing region
- Capital Power's Genesee 3 Supercritical Power Facility
- Waste Management Policy Tour
- Health Policy at the University of Alberta North Campus



Oil Sands Tour

Twenty three Western legislators attending the 65th CSG-WEST annual meeting in Edmonton, accompanied by members of the Alberta government, toured oil sands production sites and open pit mines north of Fort McMurray, Alberta. These mines are operated by Syncrude - a joint venture of oil and gas companies, which is the world's largest producer of synthetic crude from oil sands and the largest single source in Canada. Twenty percent of all oil sands production comes from open pit mining.

This group also visited a Williams facility where the company produces polymer-grade propylene, a petrochemical feedstock used in plastics manufacturing. When producers convert oil sands into usable oil, the process produces an off-gas byproduct that includes a rich mixture of natural gas, natural gas liquids (NGLs) and olefins. After it extracts the off-gas mixture, Williams returns the clean-burning natural gas to the third-party oil-sands producer for operations. The remaining NGL/olefins mixture is transported by the Boreal Pipeline to Redwater, a

facility outside of Edmonton, for further separation into polymer grade propylene.

The final leg of the tour was visiting Cenovus Energy's Christina Lake in-situ oil sands mining facilities in Conklin, Alberta, learning how this company uses a steam-assisted gravity drainage process and horizontal drilling to extract oil from beneath the surface.



ALTA (Annual Legislative Training Assembly) continues CSG-WEST's commitment to offer capacity building opportunities for lawmakers, both new and experienced, at each year's CSG-WEST annual meeting. This year's session featured "The 7 Secrets of Public Speaking" led by international media coach Richard Greene. Greene has worked with major elected officials, political candidates, athletes and business leaders throughout the world.



"You are 100% responsible for the audience's experience."

Richard Greene



International
Media Coach
Richard Greene

Left to right: Idaho Representatives Sue Chew and Maxine Bell, along with Jack Bell



Left to right: Utah Senator Curtis Bramble and Robert Geddes of Monsanto



Nevada Assemblywoman
Marilyn Dondero Loop



Wyoming Representative
Leslie Nutting

WESTRAIN

In the summer of 2012, CSG-WEST officers launched WESTRAIN, a pilot speaker's bureau project to bring legislative effectiveness training directly to state capitols. California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana and Nevada were selected as the first pilot states. WESTRAIN offered training from experts in communications/public speaking, time management and ethics at new member orientations or other training events for lawmakers of both parties.

WLA Class of 2012



Photo courtesy of Lynn Boutte Photography

Frontrow (ltor) Zack Cook (NV Rep), Jo Jordan (HI Rep), Cindy Ryu (WA Rep), Millie Hamner (CO Rep), Randy Kimer (NV Asmbr), William Burt (NM Sen), Chris Tuck (AK Rep), Norine Kasperik (WY Rep), Sherry Nuxoll (ID Sen)
 Second row: Kathleen Conti (CO Rep), Bradley Wilson (UT Rep)
 Thirdrow Steve Thompson (AK Rep), Steve Eliason (UT Rep), John Freeman (WY Rep), Rick Gray (AZ Rep), Macario Saldate (AZ Rep), Frank Pratt (AZ Rep), Ronald Kouchi (HI Sen), Elliot Anderson (NV Asmbr)
 Fourthrow Cherie Buckner-Webb (ID Rep), Steve Tharinger (WA Rep), Vito Barbieri (ID Rep), Donovan Dela Cruz (HI Sen), Fred Emerich (WY Sen), Jerry Stevenson (UT Sen)
 Fifth row: Lee Perry (UT Rep), Mark Johnson (OR Rep), Gene Vuckovich (MT Sen), Crescent Hardy (NV Asmbr)
 Lastrow Lance Pruitt (AK Rep), Mike McLane (OR Rep), Ogden Driskill (WY Sen), Dan Pabon (CO Rep), Tim Keller (NM Sen), Derek S. Kawakami (HI Rep), Richard Carrillo (NV Asmbr), George Dodge (NM Rep)

WLA Class of 2012 Works on Legislative Effectiveness



The 37 members of the Western Legislative Academy Class of 2012 arrived into Colorado Springs, Colorado fresh off the campaign

trail. Nevertheless, they dove into the West's premier legislative effectiveness training program with energy and enthusiasm.

Chosen in a highly competitive process

by members of the CSG-WEST Executive Committee, these newer lawmakers came from both parties in state legislatures throughout the West. Classes featured distinguished faculty in communications, time management, ethics, legislative institutions, negotiations and leadership.

An afternoon spent at the U.S. Air Force Academy working on team building was

a highlight. Renowned Thomas Jefferson scholar Clay Jenkinson concluded the three-day event with lessons in leadership from the nation's third president.

CSG-WEST encourages lawmakers in their first four years of total legislative service to apply for WLA 2013. The deadline to apply for WLA 2013 is April 26, 2013. Visit www.csgwest.org for more information.



WLA 2012 Class President
Wyoming Senator Ogden Driskill

Utah Hosts Legislative Service Agency/Research Directors Fall Training Seminar



Meghan M. Hanks

Nonpartisan legislative staff directors from the Western region met for their annual Legislative Service Agency/Research Directors Fall Training Seminar in early October in Park City, Utah. Members of the LSA/RD Committee participated in both "outside" management training and "inside" sharing of best legislative management practices.



Left to right: Amy Zook of Colorado Legislative Council, Rick Berkobien of Oregon Legislative Administration, Mark Quiner of Wyoming Legislative Service Office, Don Williams of Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau and Mike Christensen of Utah Office of Legislative Research & General Counsel intently listened as Darrell Harmon of People Smart Solutions delivered lessons from best-selling books "Crucial Conversations" and "Crucial Confrontations."



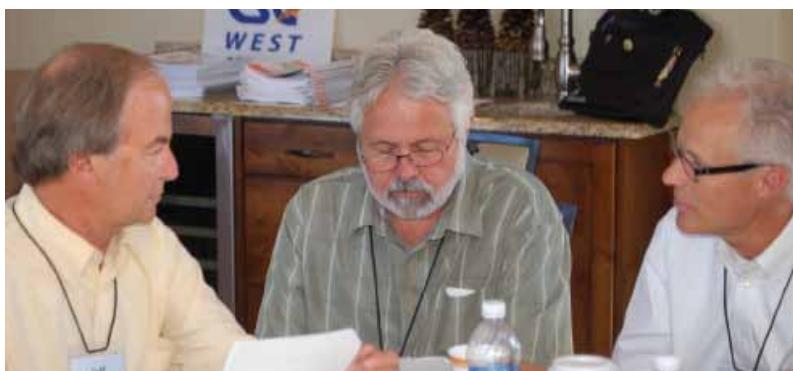
Pam Varni, Executive Director of Alaska Legislative Affairs Agency, and Mike Christensen, Director of the Utah Office of Legislative Research & General Counsel, served as chair and vice chair of the CSG-WEST Legislative Services Agency/Research Directors Committee in 2012. LSA/RD members honored Varni for her many years of distinguished service to the group. Christensen will follow her as chair in 2013-14.



Left to right: Raul Burciaga of New Mexico Legislative Council Service led a panel with Joe Ayala of California Office of Legislative Counsel and Susan Fox of Montana Legislative Services.



Rick Combs of the Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau captured points made during the discussion on managing generations in the workplace.



Left to right: Jeff Youtz of Idaho Legislative Services, Rick Berkobien of Oregon Legislative Administration and Mark Quiner of Wyoming Legislative Service Office shared best practices.



Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi of the Hawaii Legislative Reference Bureau led a case study in legislative management. Carter-Yamauchi will serve as vice chair of the group in 2013-14.

westrends



CHAIR
Kim Gillan
Senator
Montana



VICE CHAIR
Beth Kerttula
Representative
Alaska

WESTRENDS

WESTRENDS focuses on the implications for policy makers of the demographic, economic and cultural trends that are shaping Western states. Forums provide opportunities to evaluate the direction and velocity of trends that affect the quality of life in the West.

2012 WESTRENDS Board Participants

Representative Beth Kerttula, Alaska
Representative Russ Jones, Arizona
Representative Nancy Todd, Colorado
Representative Isaac Choy, Hawaii
Representative Maxine Bell, Idaho
Representative Steve Lavin, Montana
Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams, Nevada
Representative Rudy Martinez, New Mexico
Senator Richard Devlin, Oregon
Representative Jack Draxler, Utah
Senator Karen Fraser, Washington
Representative Norine Kasperik, Wyoming

Western Canada's Political & Economic Shifts, and U.S. Economic Mobility

July 21, 2012 CSG-WEST Annual Meeting
Edmonton, Alberta



Convened at the University of Alberta's Western Centre for Economic Research during the CSG-WEST 65th Annual Meeting, the WESTRENDS Board held a riveting and insightful dialogue on the emerging economic and political power shifts from central to Western Canada, and the status of economic mobility in the U.S.

Anne McLellan, Canada's former deputy prime minister and current academic director at the University of Alberta's Institute of American Studies, along with Dylan Jones, President & CEO of the Canada West Foundation, provided an overview of how the development of energy resources have helped shape an economic and political transformation in Western Canada. McLellan and Jones discussed the role that cultural and demographic factors have played in this shift and how Alberta's diversification of markets to Asia will play out in the future. Discussion ensued about how this will impact the region, shaping relationships between Western provinces and U.S. states.

Diana Elliot of the Pew Center for the States shared recent data from the Center's Economic Mobility Project. Elliot provided great insights on the landscape of Americans' circumstances today as compared to previous generations and on issues that Western states need to consider to enhance economic mobility. The data on economic mobility showed a mixed picture of how much opportunity exists in America, and for whom.

A special thanks to Jason Brisbois, director of the University of Alberta's Western Centre for Economic Research, and to Greg Anderson, research director of the University of Alberta's Institute for American Studies, for their support and for facilitating the WESTRENDS Board meeting at the University of Alberta.

Legislative Council on River Governance

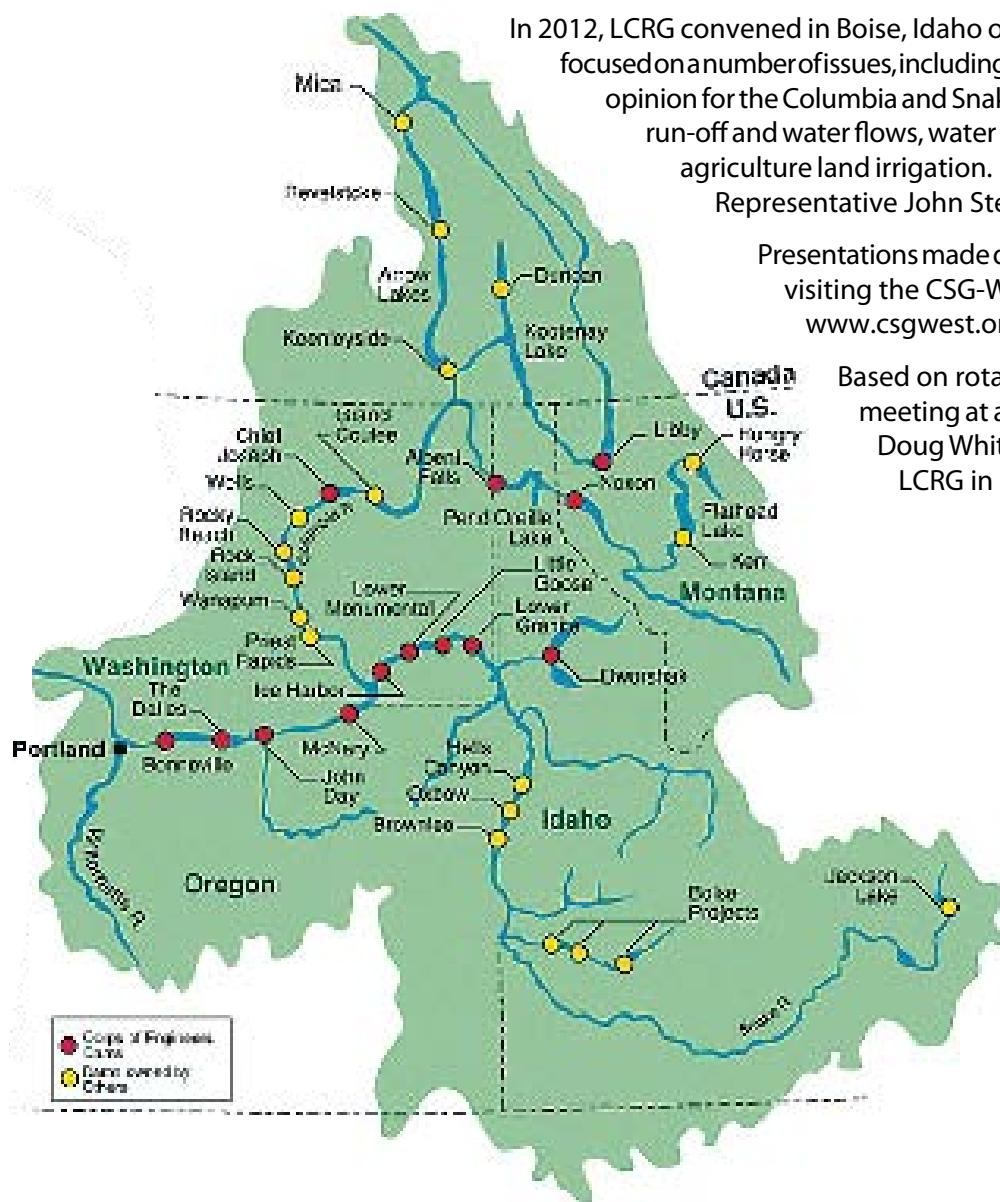


The Legislative Council on River Governance (LCRG) provides a forum for legislators from Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington to exchange ideas and discuss common interests and challenges on water management issues along the Columbia River basin. LCRG also provides an opportunity for participating state legislators to assert state legislative oversight of natural resources and river governance, as well as unite the states to develop a proactive agenda for legislative action and communications.

In 2012, LCRG convened in Boise, Idaho on August 20-21. Participating legislators focused on a number of issues, including water quality challenges, federal biological opinion for the Columbia and Snake Rivers, water rights adjudication, spring run-off and water flows, water infrastructure needs, Clean Water Act and agriculture land irrigation. The meeting was presided over by Idaho Representative John Stevenson.

Presentations made during the meeting can be downloaded by visiting the CSG-WEST website, or go directly to www.csgwest.org/programs/2012LCRGMeeting.aspx

Based on rotation, Oregon will host the 2013 LCRG meeting at a date to be determined. Oregon Senator Doug Whitsett has been selected to serve as chair of LCRG in 2013.



U.S.-Mexico State Alliance Partnership



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

A Model of Multi-Branch Cooperation

The U.S.-Mexico State Alliance Partnership is a dynamic collaborative and multi-branch program administered by CSG aimed at strengthening binational cooperation among federal, state and local officials of both countries. Funded through a grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Alliance Partnership enhances the role of state officials to address shared public policy concerns that transcend international borders. U.S.-Mexico State Alliance Partners are listed below.



California Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg led a bipartisan Senate delegation (left to right: Joel Anderson, Ricardo Lara, Kevin de Leon, Darrell Steinberg, Bob Huff, Lou Correa) to Mexico City, aimed at strengthening ties between California and Mexico. The visit was organized by the California Senate Office of International Relations, Mexico's Consulate General in Sacramento and CSG-WEST.



Left to right: South Carolina State Comptroller General Richard Eckstrom and Edgar Andres Andrade Garcia from Mexico's Ministry of Public Administration



Mexico Federal Attorney General Marisela Morales Ibañez addresses binational audience during Conference of Western Attorneys General Annual Meeting



Left to right: Campeche State Treasurer Tirso Agustin R. de la Gala Gomez; Baja California Attorney General Rommel Moreno Manjarrez; the Honorable U.S. Ambassador to Mexico Earl Anthony Wayne; and Campeche State Attorney General Renato Sales Heredia



Left to right: National Association of State Treasurers (NAST) Executive Director Jon Lawniczak and NAST Foundation President Utah State Treasurer, Richard Ellis with Mexico counterparts at the U.S.-Mexico State Alliance Partnership Partners Meeting in Mexico City

U.S.-Mexico State Alliance Partners

Arizona State University North American Center for Transborder Studies • Border Legislative Conference
 Conference of Western Attorneys General • Council of State Governments (CSG)
 CSG Southern Legislative Conference • CSG-WEST • National Association of Attorneys General
 National Association of State Treasurers • National Lieutenant Governors Association • USAID/Mexico
 The Paso del Norte Group • Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars-Mexico Institute

Border Legislative Conference



XXVI Border Legislative Conference

The Border Legislative Conference (BLC) serves as a mechanism for ongoing dialogue and collaboration among state legislators of the U.S. and Mexico border states. The BLC legislators engage in a binational agenda designed to develop shared policy solutions between both countries. The BLC works to establish efficient and strategic collaborative efforts with federal and local government and non-governmental organizations, as well as academic institutions on both sides of the border to improve and strengthen the region.

XXV Border Legislative Conference

Over fifty Legislators from the 10 U.S.-Mexico border states convened March 28-30, 2012 in Sacramento, California for the XXV Border Legislative Conference. Participating border legislators focused on the topics of repatriation procedures, solar and renewable energy, interstate cooperative opportunities and the United States-Mexico water treaties.

This event celebrated the BLC's 10th anniversary, providing an opportunity to highlight the forum's achievements as well as to recognize former BLC chairs. Both California Speaker John A. Perez and Senate President Pro Tempore Steinberg recognized past BLC chairs with resolutions and recognized all attending legislators in floor sessions of the Assembly and Senate.

Among issues addressed, there were updates on U.S.-Mexico relationships and the Border Research Partnership.

XXVI Border Legislative Conference

On November 8-10, 2012 Chihuahua Vice Chair Diputado E. Gabriel Flores Viramontes hosted the XXVI BLC in the capitol city of Chihuahua with the support of Governor Cesar Duarte Jaquez, his office and the state legislature.

Justice reforms in Mexico and border security, economic development for the border region, environment, migration and immigration were issues addressed at the conference. Among special participants were Consulate General of the United States in Ciudad Juarez, Ian Brownlee, and Minister Counselor for Political Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City, Mike Glover.

Members from the U.S. who participated in the conference elected California Senator Lou Correa as incoming BLC Vice Chair, and Texas Senator Jose Rodriguez invited the BLC to convene the XXVII meeting in Austin the spring of 2013.

XXV and XXVI BLC Sponsorship Appreciation

The BLC would like to acknowledge **USAID/Mexico** for the funding received through a cooperative agreement.

In addition, a special thank you for the generous support received from

Advance America, Anheuser Busch, Barona Band of Mission Indians, Community Loans of America, Edison International, Mead Johnson Nutrition, Verizon Foundation, and Wintec Energy.

TOOLS YOU CAN USE CSG KNOWLEDGE CENTER

www.csg.org/knowledgecenter

The CSG Knowledge Center is an interactive website that serves as a one-stop shop for more than 600 policy reports, blogs and other items. You can browse by topic and quickly find what you're looking for, and you can subscribe to RSS (Rich Site Summary) feeds on topics of interest.

For further assistance, please call CSG national at 859-244-8000 and ask for the Knowledge Center.

Within the Knowledge Center, you can find:



Capitol Research — online policy reports and issue briefs on topics ranging from motor vehicle taxes to obesity, state prison populations to unemployment benefits.



Capitol Comments — in CSG's policy blog, experts share insights into breaking news on topics of interest to state leaders. For example, learn about Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act, the new federal transportation bill, as well as information about energy, environment and education issues.



Policy Webinars — CSG offers a wide variety of webinar policy events. These online forums are not only an opportunity to learn and interact with national policy experts on a variety of topics, but also are available to download and review at your leisure.



Access to CSG Regions & Affiliates — CSG's Knowledge Center is a gateway to publications and resources from CSG's four regions, each providing unique perspectives on issues. Likewise, the Knowledge Center features resources from CSG's 14-member affiliate community with customized policy reports and tools.



Data Center — CSG's Data Center provides comparative and longitudinal information across all CSG databases and publications. Gain access to hard-to-find statistics and trend data for your state, region or the entire country.



Suggested State Legislation — For more than 60 years, this program has provided a valued series of compilations of draft legislation about topics of current importance to states.



Innovations — CSG's Innovations Awards program recognizes the top programs that make a difference in the states. From the smallest programmatic tweaks to the largest sweeping changes in state service delivery, Innovations is your "best practices" repository for policy ideas that work.



TOOLS YOU CAN USE

www.csg.org



CAPITOL IDEAS [capitolideas.csg.org/](http://capitolideas.csg.org)

CSG's national bimonthly magazine provides state leaders with insights and innovations into today's most pressing issues. With a fresh design and the latest information affecting the states, Capitol Ideas makes it easy for leaders to stay up-to-date on how other states are handling similar challenges.



CAPITOL IDEAS eNEWS www.csg.org/pubs/capitolideas/enews/enewsletter_archive_2012.aspx

CSG's biweekly electronic newsletter highlights news of the day affecting the states. Articles give fresh insights from state leaders' perspective into issues they are facing and offers resources from CSG and other respected sources to allow state leaders the opportunity to dig deeper.



CAPITOL HILL IDEAS knowledgecenter.csg.org/drupal/category/tags/capitol-hill-ideas

CSG's biweekly electronic newsletter from the Washington, D.C. office puts issues at the federal level in context for the states. Articles share information about federal action that impact the states and just what it might mean for state leaders.



CSG FEDERAL AFFAIRS [www.csgdc.org/FederalAffairs](http://csgdc.org/FederalAffairs)

The CSG D.C. office serves as an advocate for state governments in Washington, D.C. The office communicates regularly with congressional, agency and White House officials to ensure the interests of states are known and understood. The office helps members understand how their work in state capitols interacts with federal laws and policies. In addition, CSG helps state officials understand how pending and recently passed federal laws will impact states.



STATES PERFORM www.statesperform.org

The States Perform website provides access to interactive information on how states are performing across six key policy areas: education, public safety and justice, energy and environment, economic and fiscal policy, health and human services, and transportation. In a world where state governments are expected to do more with less, States Perform offers access to interactive, customizable and up-to-date comparative performance measurement data from all 50 states.



INTERSTATE COMPACTS DATABASE apps.csg.org/ncic

CSG's National Center for Interstate Compacts maintains the best single resource for state interstate compact statutory information. Search by state, compact name or year to learn which compacts your state is a member. Key contact information is included for each compact with information on national groups that administer interstate compacts. More than 200 different interstate compacts exist today, and each state is, on average, a member of more than two dozen agreements.



CSG JUSTICE CENTER justicecenter.csg.org

The CSG Justice Center helps states increase public safety and strengthen communities. The center serves all states to promote effective data-driven practices—particularly in areas in which the criminal justice system intersects with other disciplines, such as public health—to provide practical solutions to public safety and cross-system problems.



THE BOOK OF THE STATES www.csg.org/bookofthestates

A staple of CSG for more than 75 years, The Book of the States is a state government encyclopedia with essential and hard-to-find information all in one place. It features easy-to-read summaries, tables and charts and serves as an invaluable reference tool that's withstood the test of time.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Recognizing the new ways social media is driving modern policy dialogue, CSG is actively engaged on a number of social media platforms: Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. These unique tools allow CSG's policy staff to alert state officials to breaking policy information, events and impacts.

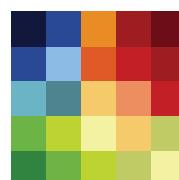
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- CropLife America
- DuPont Company
- Edmonton Festival City in a Box presented by TransAlta
- Enbridge
- EPCOR
- Express Scripts
- ExxonMobil/XTO Energy
- In Situ Oil Sands Alliance
- Johnson & Johnson
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- McDonald's USA
- McLane Company, Inc.
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- Pfizer, Inc.
- Philips Electronics North America
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- Reynolds American, Inc.
- Shell Oil Company
- State Government Affairs Council
- Suncor Energy
- The Government of Canada
- Toyota North America
- TransCanada Corporation
- Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association
- University of Alberta
- Walgreens
- Wells Fargo
- West



Special Thanks to the 2012 Sponsors

Your support enhanced our capabilities to provide substantive forums, training sessions and networking opportunities for Western state legislators.



AMERICAN COALITION FOR CLEAN COAL ELECTRICITY

Western state legislators reach across state and party lines and learn from one another,

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Thank you for your participation and investment to strengthen state legislatures in the West!



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Edmonton**

CSG Associates

The CSG Associates program provides opportunities for private sector to interact with state policymakers through national and regional programs. CSG acknowledges that private sector perspectives are critical considerations in formulating sound solutions to public policy challenges. Benefits of the CSG Associates program include:

Networking Opportunities

CSG-WEST and other CSG regional annual meetings — **Associates receive a 50 percent discount on private sector registration fees for one designated member of the company/organization.**

CSG National Conference — **Associates receive one complimentary registration and a \$200 discount on regular private sector registration rate for any additional representatives from the company or organization. Associates receive a 20 percent discount to exhibit at the meeting.**

Publications

Associates receive complimentary copies of CSG publications, including a yearly subscription to CSG's national magazine, Capitol Ideas, Suggested State Legislation, The Book of the States and the CSG State Directories.



"Serving Western Legislatures"

CSG-WEST is a region of The Council of State Governments (CSG), classified as a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization for the purpose of research and education. CSG's Federal Tax Identification Number is 366000818.



providing rich opportunities for public policy collaboration and problem solving.

CSG-WEST 2013 Preliminary Schedule of Events and Key Dates



January – June | CSG-WEST staff visits to Western Legislatures during sessions
Hosting Western Legislative Academy Alumni events

Spring | XXVII Border Legislative Conference, Austin, Texas

Friday, April 26 | CSG-WEST 14th Western Legislative Academy Applications Due

July 30 – August 2 | CSG-WEST 66th Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada

August 16-21 | CSG National Henry Toll Fellows Leadership Conference, Lexington, Kentucky

September 19-22 | CSG National Annual Conference, Kansas City, Missouri

Fall | XXVIII Border Legislative Conference in Mexico

**Late September/
Early October** | Western Legislative Service Agency/Research Directors Fall Training Seminar

November 13-16 | CSG-WEST 14th Western Legislative Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado



**WESTERN
LEGISLATIVE
ACADEMY**
November 13-16, 2013
Colorado Springs, CO



CSG-WEST 2013

Bright Lights: Shining on the Progress of the West



Accommodations at The Mirage

www.mirage.com/

- Special negotiated rate of \$122 double/single occupancy (plus tax) for CSG-WEST attendees;
- State-of-the-art technology and meeting facilities; and
- Many family-friendly activities, such as Siegfried & Roy's Secret Garden, Dolphin Habitat, and a 20,000-gallon saltwater aquarium.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

CSG-WEST 66th Annual Meeting
Las Vegas, Nevada

July 30–August 2, 2013

Sharing good ideas across state borders and learning from one another will continue to be a cornerstone of CSG-WEST 66th annual meeting. The meeting theme, "Bright Lights: Shining on the Progress of the West," provides a broad programming base to address shared policy concerns ranging from high urban concentrations to wide open spaces, to management of land and water resources, health care and education reform, transportation and energy concerns and more.

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

Monday, July 29

On-Site Meeting Registration Opens

Tuesday, July 30

Opening Plenary Session

ALTA: Annual Legislative Training Assembly

North America Summit

Welcoming Event

Wednesday, July 31

Policy Forums

Lunch Plenary

Afternoon Policy Tour(s)

FREE Evening

Thursday, August 1

Policy Forums

Lunch Plenary

Women in Politics Session

Host Event

Friday, August 2

Policy Forums

Lunch Plenary

Executive Committee Meeting

Closing Evening Event

See You in Vegas!



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WESTRAIN



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General Research/ Policy Question

If you have a general research inquiry or policy question, consider emailing your request, with your name, state, organization, phone to apps.csg.org/inquirytracker/



"Serving Western Legislatures"

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The Council of State Governments

Regional by design, CSG is a national community with six offices across the U.S. All CSG members have the opportunity to participate on two levels—regional and national. This structure invites focused participation from members on a more intimate, regional level and also provides a national community to exchange information and ideas. The regional and national offices also invite international participation through partnerships with Canadian provinces.



CSG WEST

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